



David & Goliath

Courage in the Valley

1 Samuel 17 · Ages 8-12 · Free ₹0

This book belongs to

Read, wonder, talk

Enjoy eight short chapters. Look up the Bible references with an adult. Pause when something surprises you. Finish with the questions and your creative activity.

About this edition

Original retelling and layout prepared for Christ Alive Church, Bengaluru. The text summarises the biblical passages; it is not a Bible translation. New cover illustration created with AI.

To print a folded A5 book, select Booklet in your PDF viewer, use A4 paper and double-sided printing. Check the printer preview before printing.

CHAPTER 01

A Frightening Challenge

1 Samuel 17:1-11

Two armies faced each other across a valley. Goliath, a powerful Philistine warrior, came forward with a challenge. He wanted a man from Israel to fight him. Day after day his words frightened Saul and the army. The challenge seemed too large, and no one wanted to step forward.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 02

Food for His Brothers

1 Samuel 17:12-23

David was a young shepherd. His father sent him to bring food to his brothers and news back from the camp. While there, David heard Goliath's challenge. He had arrived to do an ordinary helpful job. That simple task placed him where he could notice a need others were afraid to face.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 03

A Different Question

1 Samuel 17:24-30

David heard people talking about the warrior and the reward for defeating him. David focused on something else: Goliath was defying the army of the living God. His older brother became angry with him, but David kept asking questions. He was not looking at the challenge in quite the same way as everyone around him.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 04

Remembering Help

1 Samuel 17:31-37

David told Saul that while caring for sheep, he had faced a lion and a bear. He believed the Lord who had delivered him then could deliver him now. Saul saw his youth; David remembered God's help. Courage grew from trust, not from pretending that Goliath was small or harmless.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 05

Tools He Knew

1 Samuel 17:38-40

Saul gave David armour, but David had not tested it and could not move comfortably in it. He took it off. Instead he chose five smooth stones, his sling and his shepherd's staff. He did not have to become a copy of Saul. He went with the skills and tools he had learned to use.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 06

Words Before the Battle

1 Samuel 17:41-47

Goliath mocked David when he saw the young shepherd. David answered that the battle belonged to the Lord. His confidence was not a claim that he was stronger than the giant. He wanted people to know that God could save. The deepest difference between the two men was what they trusted.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 07

One Stone

1 Samuel 17:48-50

As Goliath moved forward, David ran toward him and used his sling. The stone struck, and Goliath fell. David had faced the challenge others feared. This battle belongs to a particular moment in Israel's history. For children reading it today, the lesson is trust in God, not copying violence against people we dislike.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 08

Courage for Today

1 Samuel 17:45-50

Our challenges may include admitting a mistake, asking for help or standing beside someone who is excluded. Trusting God can give us courage for those steps. Courage does not mean proving ourselves alone or taking unsafe risks. We can pray, use the skills we have and seek help from trustworthy adults.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

Think together

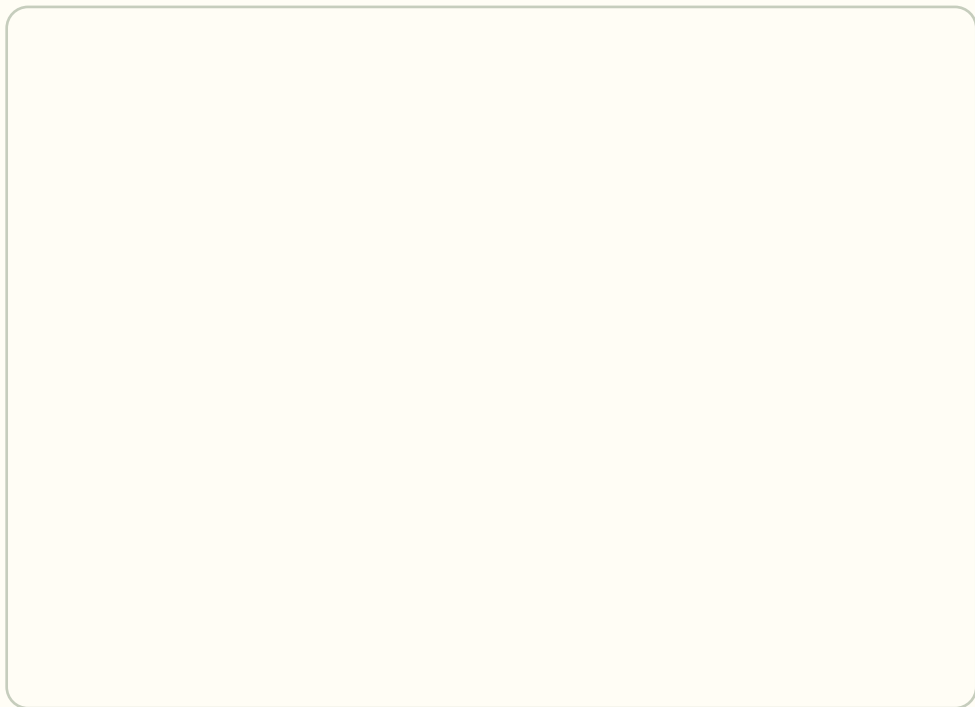
1. Why did David refuse Saul's armour?

2. What earlier experiences helped him trust God?

3. What is the difference between trusting God and trying to show off?

Make it your own

Draw five smooth stones. On them write five ways to act with courage and kindness this week.



A little prayer

Thank God for what you learned. Ask Him to help you live with love, wisdom and courage today.